



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

July 7, 1999

### **H.R. 149** **Omnibus Parks Technical Corrections Act of 1999**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on  
June 30, 1999*

H.R. 149 would make technical amendments to numerous provisions of the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 (Omnibus Parks Act) and other statutes affecting public lands. Most of these amendments would correct spelling and punctuation errors or make other nonsubstantive changes in the original law. Two provisions of the act, however, would increase direct spending by an estimated \$18 million over the next five years. As a result, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply.

Section 304 of H.R. 149 would modify the Secretary of the Interior's authority to sell, purchase, or exchange certain federal land in six districts within Oregon managed by the Bureau of Land Management. For specified types of land affected in those districts, the act would require the Secretary to ensure that there is no net decrease in acreage over the next 10 years or over subsequent 10-year periods. This provision could affect direct spending (including offsetting receipts) if it resulted in changes to timber harvests on federal land and the associated payments to the state and counties. CBO expects that any such effects would probably be insignificant over the next 10 years.

Section 310 would authorize the Secretary to spend, without further appropriation action, all amounts earned from recreation fees at all units of the National Park System rather than just those units participating in the recreational fee demonstration program. Under current law, 85 percent of the receipts earned at nonparticipating sites must be appropriated before they can be spent. (The remaining 15 percent is used, without further appropriation, to cover collection costs.) CBO estimates that allowing the National Park Service to spend all such amounts earned through 2001 (when the demonstration program ends) would increase direct spending by \$18 million over the 2000-2004 period.

H.R. 149 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act sets up pay-as-you-go procedures for legislation affecting direct spending or receipts. The net changes in outlays that are subject to pay-as-you-go procedures are shown in the following table. For the purposes of enforcing pay-as-you-go procedures, only the effects in the current year, the budget year, and the succeeding four years are counted.

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars										
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Changes in outlays	0	5	7	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Changes in receipts	Not applicable										

On February 10, 1999, CBO prepared a cost estimate for H.R. 149 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on February 3, 1999. That version of the legislation did not contain the authority to spend recreation fees at all park units.

The CBO staff contacts are Deborah Reis and Victoria Heid Hall. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.